

Message Text

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15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SCCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 /062 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2793

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 7463

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, IR

SUBJ: CAPTURE OF IRANIAN TERRORISTS INVOLVED IN SHAFFER-
TURNER KILLINGS

REFS: (A) NIT 9594; (B) NIT 9595; (C) TEHRAN 6631

1. FARSI PRESS JULY 30 HEADLINED ARREST OF TWO MEMBERS OF
FANATICAL RIGHTIST GROUP, MUJAHIDIN-E-KHALQ ("PEOPLE'S
STRUGGLERS"), WHO WERE INVOLVED IN KILLING OF U.S. COLONELS
SHAFFER AND TURNER MAY 21 AND EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEE HOSSNAN
JULY 3 (REF A).

2. ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PROSS JULY 30 CARRIED STORY OF CAPTURE
OF RAHMAN VAHID AFRAKHTEH AND MOHSEN KHAMUSHI, AND ON JULY
31 ANNOUNCED ARREST OF MORTEXA SAMADIEH LABAF WHO CLAIMED HE
WAS NOT INVOLVED IN MURDER OF AMERICAN COLONELS AND HOSSNAN
BUT HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE EARLIER KILLING OF IRANIAN GENERAL
ZANDIPOUR AND HIS CHAUFFEUR. ACCORDING TO LOCAL FRENCH PRESS,
LABAF CAPTURED AS A RESULT OF EVIDENCE SEIZED WHEN AFRAKHTEH
AND KHAMUSHI TAKEN.

3. REF (B) DESCRIBES CAPTURE OF TWO ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF
MUJAHIDIN-E-KAHLQ IN MASHED JULY 27.

4. ABOVE CAPTURES CONSIDERED IMPORTANT BREAK-THROUGH AGAINST
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GROUPS WHICH HAVE BEEN TARGETING AMERICANS (REF C). AFRAKHTEH

IS VERY IMPORTANT SENIOR TERRORIST OFFICIAL WHO HAD BEEN SOUGHT
FOR 4-5 YEARS. TERRORISTS' ACTIVITIES CONFIRMED BY DOCUMENTARY
EVIDENCE IMPOUNDED BY POLICE AT TIME OF CAPTURE, WHICH ALSO
INDICATED ADDITIONAL EFFORTS PLANNED AGAINST AMERICANS.
HELMS

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE
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